

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /105 W

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R 090632Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 282

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE REVIEWS AND UPDATES CURRENT PROVINCIAL BATTLES WITHIN THE SPHERE OF CULTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE ATTACK ON REVISIONISM IN THE CULTURAL SPHERE IS BROADENING AND BECOMING COMPLICATED. THIS MESSAGE NOTES THE LATEST PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES THE LIST OF WORKS THUS FAR TARGETED. THE LIST SHOWS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE CURRENT STRUGGLE IS BEING WAGED WITH THE CULTURAL WEAPON WHICH THE CHINESE FAVOR AND WEILD SKILLFULLY IN POLITICAL INFIGHTING. IT ALSO OFFERS A GLIMPSE OF THE LOCAL BATTLES BEING FOUGHT OUTSIDE PEKING.

2. HUMAN: A RALLY MARCH 30 ATTACKED THREE APPARENTLY LOCAL WORKS, EACH FOR THE FIRST TIME (APRIL 4 BROADCAST). THESE INCLUDED OPERAS "RETURNING THE OX" AND "SONG OF YUANTING", AND A COLLECTION OF "REPORT LITTERATURE ENTITLED "THE WIND MOANS AND THE FIRE ROARS". THE LATTER WORK IS SAID THE HAVE "EMERGED WHEN THE LIN PIAO ANTI-PARTY CLIQUE WAS CRITICIZING 'ULTRA-LEFTISM' IN A BIG WAY, POINTING THE SPEARHEAD AT

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THE REVOLUTIONARY MASSES AND GONING ALL OUT TO SHIFT THE MAIN

ORIENTATION OF THE STRUGGLE TO CRITICIZE LIN PIAO." THE OPERA ABOUT THE OX IS SAID TO BE A NEW VERSION OF A PRE-CULTURAL REVOLUTION WORK. THE BROADCAST ALLEGED THAT "THE SOUTHERN OX AND THE NORTHERN HORSE" (THE LATTER RELATES TO THE SHANSI OPERA "THREE VISITS TO TAOFENG") ARE OF "THE SAME BLACK LINE". VETERAN CADRE CHANG PING-HUA, WHO TRANSFERRED FROM SHANSI BACK TO HIS OLD HUNAN BAILIWICK IN EARLY 1973, COULD BE A TARGET.

3. LIAONING: THE NOVEL LIFE, WHICH PRESENTS A CRITICAL PICTURE OF LEADERS IN THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION (HONG KONG'S A-59), CONTINUES TO BE ATTACKED (APRIL 2 BROADCAST).

4. KIANGSU-SHANGHAI: WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING FURTHER TO HONG KONG 3814 WHICH REPORTED CRITICISM IN KIANGSU OF AN ALBUM OF PAINTINGS PUBLISHED IN SHANGHAI.

5. SHANSI: "THREE VISITS TO TAOFENG" CONTINUES TO BE FIERCELY ATTACKED IN SHANSI (APRIL 3, 6 BROADCASTS) AND OTHER PROVINCES (HONG KONG 3135). RADIO MONITORS ADVISE US THAT SEASONAL ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS WILL SOON INTERFERE WITH RECEPTION FROM SHANSI AND WE WILL LOSE TRACK OF THE LOCAL ASPECT OF THIS BATTLE.

6. SZECHWAN: IN CRITICIZING "THREE VISITS TO TAOFENG", A MARCH 23 SZECHWAN BROADCAST ADDED THAT CULTURAL CIRCLES THERE HAD BEEN DEEPLY POISONED BY THE REVISIONIST LINE AND HAD ALSO PERFORMED "POISONOUS-WEED OPERAS".

7. SHANTUNG: A MARCH 27 BROADCAST DRAGGED OUT A PLAY "AT THE COURT", WHICH IT CLAIMED WAS A PREDECESSOR OF "TURBULENT BEACH", A SHANTUNG WORK UNDER ATTACK (HONG KONG 3135), AND "CASE NUMBER 302", A WORK WHICH KIANGSI HAD ATTACKED (HONG KONG 2384). "AT THE COURT" IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN SUPPRESSED BY MASS CRITICISM DURING OR BEFORE THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. ITS THEME IS SOCIETY'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRIMES COMMITTED BY YOUTH, AND IT APPARENTLY CRITICIZES THE YOUTH-TO-THE-COUNTRY-SIDE PROGRAM.

8. FUKIEN: A POLITICAL PAMPHLET ORIGINATING IN FUKIEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS BEEN ATTACKED BY RED FLAG IN A WAY THAT INCRIMINATES FORMER FUKIEN CHIEF HAN HSIEN-CHU (HONG KONG 3905).
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